Collection of Gravity Data by ONGC and Survey of India

1818. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC and the Survey of India has been collecting and sharing sensitive gravity data relating to the Himalayas having military significance under an internal collaboration;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in India gravity data are published whereas in other countries like U.S.S.R. U.S.A. such information is either not published at all or considered as classified information; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for publishing and sharing sensitive gravity data having military importance and what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) The ONGC have not shared gravity data relating to Himalayas under any collaboration.

Such data was published by the Survey of India in 1956 when there were no restrictions. With the introduction of restrictions in 1965, no further data were exchanged with outside agencies. Also no further collaborations were entered into by Survey of India in this field.

The practcie adopted by USSR/USA in the matter is not known.

Quantity and Cost of Gas flared up from Oil Wells

1819. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 59 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st January, 1985 and state:

(a) what is the quantity and cost of the gas flared from oil wells during the year 1985 and so far in the current year.

(b) the quantity of petro-chemicals and liquid petroleum gas manufactured in the plants set up to manufacture these items during this period; and

(c) the quantity of gas supplied to other countries with the names of such countries and the cost of the gas supplied during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PEROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Details are given in the table given below:

	1985-86	1986-87 (April-Sept. 1986)
Gas flared	3124	1310 million cubic meters.
*National Value of gas flared	Rs. 31.24 crores	Rs. 13.10 crores
LPG produced	343·28	334·16 Thousand tonnes
Petrochemicals	Nil	Nil

*At the rate of Rs. 100/1000M3